

COBB COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY

WORK SESSION AGENDA COVER

WORK SESSION OF JANUARY 26, 2016

**ITEM
NO.**

Administration

- 1 To present information regarding policing policies, practices and ongoing activities.



Cobb County Department of Public Safety

Sam Heaton, Director of Public Safety

Comm. Dist.
All

100 Cherokee Street, Suite 460
Marietta, Georgia 30090-9682

TO: David Hankerson, County Manager

FROM: Sam Heaton, Director of Public Safety

This item has been electronically signed by:

Sam Heaton, Director of Public Safety

DATE: January 26, 2016

PURPOSE

To present information regarding policing policies, practices and ongoing activities.

BACKGROUND

On December 17, 2015, the Board of Commissioners directed the Public Safety Director, in consultation with the County Manager, to inventory and evaluate policing policies, practices and ongoing activities. Recent incidents involving interactions with the Cobb County Police Department have resulted in much public dialogue and questions about various existing policies and practices. High profile incidents that have occurred on the national level have resulted in departments across the country taking a hard look at policies and practices to ensure that similar incidents do not happen in their community.

Cobb County Police Department is one of the best in the country. The department is consistently seeking out and implementing best policing practices. The findings of the evaluation will outline the best path forward including; suggested areas for review, individuals and/or organizations best suited to conduct this review, anticipated results of such review and a timeline.

The goal is to move forward with the recommended formal review process as directed by the Board on the February 9, 2016 Board of Commissioners regular meeting with final recommendations of the review to be presented to the Board of Commissioners at the May 24, 2016 Board of Commissioners regular meeting.

FUNDING

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

The Board of Commissioners consider information presented from the Public Safety Director for a recommendation concerning recent and upcoming recommendations for improvements to the policing policies, practices and ongoing activities related to recruitment, diversity training, community engagement, the citizen complaint process and other areas that may be identified by the Public Safety Director as set out in the background.